

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Executive Summary .....</b>	xi
<b>Chapter 1 – Introduction</b>	
How to Read This Chapter .....	1
Background .....	1
Purpose and Need for the Plan .....	1
Planning Area Description .....	1
Planning Process .....	3
Scoping and Issues .....	5
Planning Criteria and Legislative Constraints .....	9
Related Plans .....	10
Collaboration .....	12
Overall Vision .....	13
Changes From Draft RMP to Proposed RMP .....	13
<b>Chapter 2 – Alternatives</b>	
How to Read This Chapter .....	19
Development of Alternatives .....	19
General Description of the Alternatives .....	20
Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Analysis .....	20
Detailed Description of the Alternatives .....	21
RESOURCES .....	21
Air Quality .....	21
Cultural Resources .....	22
Fish and Wildlife .....	23
Geologic Resources .....	28
Paleontological Resources .....	28
Soils .....	28
Special Status Species—General .....	28
Special Status Species—Birds and Mammals .....	29
Special Status Species—Fish .....	29
Special Status Species—Plants .....	33
Vegetation—Forests and Woodlands .....	34
Vegetation—Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds .....	37
Vegetation—Rangelands .....	38
Vegetation—Riparian and Wetlands .....	39
Visual Resources .....	41
Water .....	42
Wild Horses and Burros .....	43
RESOURCE USES .....	43
Forest Products .....	43
Lands and Realty .....	44
Livestock Grazing .....	49
Minerals—Leasable .....	51
Minerals—Locatable .....	57
Minerals—Mineral Materials .....	58
Recreation .....	59
Renewable Energy .....	63
Transportation and Facilities .....	63
Travel Management and OHV Use .....	63
Utility and Communication Corridors .....	67
FIRE MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGY .....	67
Wildland Fire .....	67
Prescribed Fire .....	69
Rehabilitation .....	70

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS .....	70
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern .....	70
Back Country Byways .....	74
National Recreation Areas .....	74
National Trails .....	74
Wild and Scenic Rivers .....	74
Wilderness .....	75
Wilderness Study Areas .....	75
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS .....	78
Economics .....	78
Environmental Justice .....	78
Health and Safety—Abandoned Mine Lands .....	78
Health and Safety—Debris Flows .....	78
Health and Safety—Hazardous Materials .....	78
Indian Trust Resources .....	78
Social Conditions .....	78
Tribal Treaty Rights .....	77
Summary Comparison of Alternatives (Table 12) .....	80
Summary Comparison of Impacts (Table 13).....	141

## **Chapter 3 – Affected Environment**

How to Read This Chapter .....	163
RESOURCES .....	163
Air Quality .....	163
Cultural Resources .....	164
Fish and Wildlife .....	169
Geologic Resources .....	181
Paleontological Resources .....	182
Soils .....	185
Special Status Species—General .....	186
Special Status Species—Birds and Mammals .....	187
Special Status Species—Fish .....	197
Special Status Species—Plants .....	198
Vegetation—Forests and Woodlands .....	201
Vegetation—Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds .....	204
Vegetation—Rangelands .....	205
Vegetation—Riparian and Wetlands .....	207
Visual Resources .....	211
Water .....	213
Wild Horses and Burros .....	215
RESOURCE USES .....	215
Forest Products .....	215
Lands and Realty .....	216
Livestock Grazing .....	221
Minerals—Leasable .....	224
Minerals—Locatable .....	226
Mineral Materials .....	229
Recreation .....	229
Renewable Energy .....	231
Transportation and Facilities .....	232
Travel Management and OHV Use .....	236
Utility and Communication Corridors .....	237
FIRE MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGY .....	237
SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS .....	243
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern .....	243
Back Country Byways .....	246
National Recreation Areas .....	246

National Trails .....	246
Wild and Scenic Rivers .....	247
Wilderness .....	247
Wilderness Study Areas .....	249
<b>SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS .....</b>	<b>250</b>
Economics .....	250
Environmental Justice .....	264
Health and Safety—Abandoned Mine Lands .....	264
Health and Safety—Debris Flows .....	267
Health and Safety—Hazardous Materials .....	267
Indian Trust Resources .....	269
Social Conditions .....	269
Tribal Treaty Rights .....	274

## **Chapter 4 – Environmental Consequences**

How to Read This Chapter .....	277
Introduction .....	277
Types of Effects .....	277
Availability of Data and Incomplete Information .....	279
Critical Elements .....	279
Analysis Assumptions and Guidelines .....	279
Impacts Common to All Alternatives .....	286
<b>RESOURCES .....</b>	<b>287</b>
Air Quality .....	287
Cultural Resources .....	287
Fish and Wildlife .....	288
Geologic Resources .....	290
Paleontological Resources .....	290
Soils .....	291
Special Status Species .....	291
Special Status Species—Birds and Mammals .....	291
Special Status Species—Fish .....	292
Special Status Species—Plants .....	292
Vegetation—Forests and Woodlands .....	293
Vegetation—Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds .....	293
Vegetation—Rangeland .....	294
Vegetation—Riparian and Wetlands .....	294
Visual Resources .....	295
Water .....	295
<b>RESOURCE USES .....</b>	<b>295</b>
Forest Products .....	295
Lands and Realty .....	295
Livestock Grazing .....	297
Minerals—Leasable .....	297
Minerals—Locatable .....	297
Mineral Materials .....	298
Recreation .....	298
Transportation and Facilities Maintenance .....	299
Travel Management and OHV Use .....	299
<b>FIRE MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGY .....</b>	<b>299</b>
<b>SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS .....</b>	<b>299</b>
National Recreation Areas .....	299
National Trails .....	299
Wilderness .....	300
Wild and Scenic Rivers .....	300
<b>SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS .....</b>	<b>300</b>
Economics .....	300

Environmental Justice .....	301
Health and Safety—Abandoned Mine Lands .....	301
Health and Safety—Debris Flows .....	302
Health and Safety—Hazardous Materials .....	302
Social Conditions .....	302
Impacts from Alternative A .....	302
RESOURCES .....	302
Cultural Resources .....	302
Fish and Wildlife .....	303
Paleontological Resources .....	304
Soils .....	304
Special Status Birds and Mammals .....	304
Special Status Fish .....	304
Special Status Plants .....	305
Vegetation—Forests and Woodlands .....	305
Vegetation—Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds .....	305
Vegetation—Rangeland .....	306
Vegetation—Riparian and Wetlands .....	306
Visual Resources .....	307
Water .....	307
RESOURCE USES .....	308
Forest Products .....	308
Lands and Realty .....	308
Livestock Grazing .....	308
Minerals—Leasable .....	309
Minerals—Locatable .....	309
Minerals—Mineral Materials .....	311
Recreation .....	311
Renewable Energy .....	312
Utility and Communication Corridors .....	312
FIRE MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGY .....	312
Wildland Fire .....	312
Prescribed Fire .....	312
Fire Rehabilitation .....	313
SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS .....	313
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern .....	313
Back Country Byways .....	313
National Trails .....	313
Wild and Scenic Rivers .....	313
Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas .....	313
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS .....	314
Economics .....	314
Social Conditions .....	316
Tribal Treaty Rights .....	317
Impacts from Alternative B .....	317
RESOURCES .....	317
Cultural Resources .....	317
Fish and Wildlife .....	318
Paleontological Resources .....	319
Soils .....	320
Special Status Birds and Mammals .....	320
Special Status Fish .....	321
Special Status Plants .....	321
Vegetation—Forests and Woodlands .....	321
Vegetation—Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds .....	322
Vegetation—Rangeland .....	322
Vegetation—Riparian and Wetlands .....	323

Visual Resources .....	323
Water .....	323
RESOURCE USES .....	324
Forest Products .....	324
Lands and Realty .....	324
Livestock Grazing .....	325
Minerals—Leasable .....	326
Minerals—Locatable .....	326
Minerals—Mineral Materials .....	326
Recreation .....	328
Renewable Energy .....	329
Utility and Communication Corridors .....	329
FIRE MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGY .....	329
Wildland Fire .....	329
Prescribed Fire .....	329
Fire Rehabilitation .....	330
SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS .....	330
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern .....	330
Back Country Byways .....	331
National Trails .....	331
Wild and Scenic Rivers .....	331
Wilderness Study Areas .....	331
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS .....	331
Economics .....	331
Social Conditions .....	333
Tribal Treaty Rights .....	334
Impacts from Alternative C .....	335
RESOURCES .....	335
Cultural Resources .....	335
Fish and Wildlife .....	335
Paleontological Resources .....	337
Soils .....	337
Special Status Birds and Mammals .....	337
Special Status Fish .....	338
Special Status Plants .....	338
Vegetation—Forests and Woodlands .....	338
Vegetation—Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds .....	339
Vegetation—Rangeland .....	339
Vegetation—Riparian and Wetlands .....	340
Visual Resources .....	340
Water .....	340
RESOURCE USES .....	340
Forest Products .....	340
Lands and Realty .....	341
Livestock Grazing .....	341
Minerals—Leasable .....	342
Minerals—Locatable .....	343
Minerals—Mineral Materials .....	343
Recreation .....	343
Renewable Energy .....	344
Utility and Communication Corridors .....	344
FIRE MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGY .....	345
Wildland Fire .....	345
Prescribed Fire .....	345
Fire Rehabilitation .....	345
SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS .....	345
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern .....	345

Back Country Byways .....	345
National Trails .....	345
Wild and Scenic Rivers .....	346
Wilderness Study Areas .....	346
<b>SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS .....</b>	<b>346</b>
Economics .....	346
Social Conditions .....	348
Tribal Treaty Rights .....	349
Impacts from Alternative D .....	349
<b>RESOURCES .....</b>	<b>349</b>
Cultural Resources .....	349
Fish and Wildlife .....	350
Paleontological Resources .....	351
Soils .....	351
Special Status Birds and Mammals .....	351
Special Status Fish .....	352
Special Status Plants .....	352
Vegetation—Forests and Woodlands .....	352
Vegetation—Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds .....	353
Vegetation—Rangeland .....	353
Vegetation—Riparian and Wetlands .....	353
Visual Resources .....	353
Water .....	354
<b>RESOURCE USES .....</b>	<b>354</b>
Forest Products .....	354
Lands and Realty .....	354
Livestock Grazing .....	355
Minerals—Leasable .....	355
Minerals—Locatable .....	355
Minerals—Mineral Materials .....	355
Recreation .....	357
Renewable Energy .....	357
Utility and Communication Corridors .....	358
<b>FIRE MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGY .....</b>	<b>358</b>
Wildland Fire .....	358
Prescribed Fire .....	358
Fire Rehabilitation .....	358
<b>SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS .....</b>	<b>358</b>
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern .....	358
Back Country Byways .....	359
National Trails .....	359
Wild and Scenic Rivers .....	359
Wilderness Study Areas .....	359
<b>SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS .....</b>	<b>359</b>
Economics .....	359
Social Conditions .....	360
Tribal Treaty Rights .....	361
Cumulative Impacts .....	361
Irretrievable or Irreversible Commitment of Resources .....	369
Unavoidable Adverse Impacts .....	372

## **Chapter 5 – Consultation and Coordination**

Introduction .....	373
Scoping and Public Involvement Prior to Draft RMP/EIS .....	373
Collaborative Efforts .....	374
Release of the Draft RMP/EIS .....	376
Formal Consultation .....	376

Public Comments on the Draft RMP/EIS .....	377
Distribution of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS .....	537
Interdisciplinary Team .....	539
<b>References Cited .....</b>	<b>545</b>
<b>Glossary .....</b>	<b>555</b>
<b>Index .....</b>	<b>571</b>

## List of Tables

Table 1: Surface Ownership/Administration of Lands in Beaverhead and Madison Counties .....	2
Table 2: Federal Minerals within the Dillon Field Office included in RMP Decisions .....	2
Table 3: Steps in the BLM Land Use Planning Process .....	4
Table 4: Acres of Avoidance and Exclusion Areas for Rights-of-Way by Alternative .....	46
Table 5: Acres of Federal Mineral Estate Available or Not for Fluid Mineral Leasing .....	53
Table 6: Lease Terms and Stipulations by Alternative .....	53
Table 7: Acres Proposed for Withdrawal from Locatable Mineral Entry by Alternative .....	58
Table 8: Comparison by Alternative of Roads Available for Motorized Use and Snowmobile Areas .....	66
Table 9: Dillon Field Office Fire Management Zones and Wildfire Management Categories by Alternative .....	68
Table 10: Summary Comparison of BLM Acres in each Fire Category by Alternative .....	69
Table 11: Potential ACEC Designations by Alternative .....	73
Table 12: Summary Comparison of Alternatives .....	80
Table 13: Summary Comparison of Impacts .....	141
Table 14: Relationship Among Cultural Resource Use Categories, National Register Eligibility, and Preservation/National Register Nomination .....	170
Table 15: Seasonal Habitat for Game Species in the Dillon Field Office .....	176
Table 16: Amphibian and Reptile Occurrence in the Planning Area .....	180
Table 17: Montana Special Status Wildlife Species in the Dillon Planning Area .....	188
Table 18: Habitat and Occurrence Information for Known BLM Special Status Plant Species in the Planning Area .....	199
Table 19: Acres and Percentages of Forest Communities in the Planning Area .....	202
Table 20: Summary of Forest Habitat Groups in the Planning Area .....	204
Table 21: Montana State Designated Noxious Weeds .....	206
Table 22: Vegetation Cover Types from Satellite Imagery Classification .....	208
Table 23: Functional Condition of Streams and Wetlands in the Planning Area .....	210
Table 24: Visual Resource Management Class Objectives .....	212
Table 25: Acreages of Planning Area by Assigned VRM Class .....	212
Table 26: Annual Discharge Estimates from Subbasins in the Planning Area .....	214
Table 27: Capacity and Purpose of Reservoirs in the Planning Area .....	214
Table 28: Communication Sites, Locations and Existing Uses (Designations). .....	217
Table 29: Land Ownership Adjustment Actions Since 1979 .....	218
Table 30: Existing Withdrawals in the Planning Area .....	219
Table 31: Comparison of Actual Use to Permitted Use by AUM Between 1992-2001 .....	221
Table 32: Acreage by Jurisdiction within High Priority Watershed Analysis Areas (in Priority Order) .....	222
Table 33: Summary of Types of Existing Rangeland Improvements .....	223
Table 34: Oil and Gas Development Potential Rankings Across the Planning Area .....	226
Table 35: Summary of Production from Major Mining Districts .....	227
Table 36: BLM Mineral Material Sites in the Planning Area .....	229
Table 37: Classification of Wind Power Potential in the Planning Area .....	231
Table 38: BLM Road Maintenance Levels .....	234
Table 39: BLM Trail Maintenance Levels .....	236
Table 40: Prescribed Burns Completed in the Dillon Planning Area Since 1982. ....	238
Table 41: Fire Regime Classifications .....	230
Table 42: Planning Area Acres by Fuel Condition Group .....	241
Table 43: Fire Risk Condition Classifications .....	242

Table 44:	Potential Areas of Critical Environmental Concern .....	244
Table 45:	Eligible Rivers and River Segments in the Planning Area .....	248
Table 46:	Recommendations on WSAs in the Dillon Field Office .....	250
Table 47:	Cities and Towns in Madison and Beaverhead Counties .....	251
Table 48:	Employment and Labor Earnings by Major Type and Sector in 2000 .....	252
Table 49:	Dillon Field Office Expenditures .....	254
Table 50:	Payments in Lieu of Taxes to Madison and Beaverhead Counties .....	255
Table 51:	Annual AUM Authorizations in the Planning Area .....	257
Table 52:	Area and DFO Timber Sales Activity .....	259
Table 53:	Large Game Hunting Activities in Beaverhead and Madison Counties in 2002 .....	263
Table 54:	Activities and Associated Hazardous Materials .....	268
Table 55:	Beaverhead and Madison County Populations .....	273
Table 56:	Employment and Labor Income Response Coefficients .....	286
Table 57:	Effects on Forest/Woodlands and Forest Products from Alternative A Management Provisions .....	306
Table 58:	Summary of Acres Affected by Oil and Gas Stipulations under Alternative A .....	310
Table 59:	Proposed Mineral Withdrawals under Alternative A .....	311
Table 60:	Employment and Labor Income Summary under Alternative A .....	315
Table 61:	Effects on Forest/Woodlands and Forest Products from Alternative B Management Provisions .....	322
Table 62:	Summary of Acres Affected by Oil and Gas Stipulations under Alternative B .....	327
Table 63:	Proposed Mineral Withdrawals under Alternative B .....	328
Table 64:	Employment and Labor Income Summary under Alternative B .....	332
Table 65:	Effects on Forest/Woodlands and Forest Products from Alternative C Management Provisions .....	339
Table 66:	Summary of Acres Affected by Oil and Gas Stipulations under Alternative C .....	342
Table 67:	Proposed Mineral Withdrawals under Alternative C .....	343
Table 68:	Employment and Labor Income Summary under Alternative C .....	347
Table 69:	Effects on Forest/Woodlands and Forest Products from Alternative D Management Provisions .....	353
Table 70:	Summary of Acres Affected by Oil and Gas Stipulations under Alternative D .....	356
Table 71:	Proposed Mineral Withdrawals under Alternative D .....	357
Table 72:	Employment and Labor Income Summary under Alternative D .....	360
Table 73:	List of Preparers .....	540

## **List of Figures**

Figure 1:	BLM Planning Process .....	3
Figure 2:	North American Land Mammal Ages Correlated with Lithostratigraphy .....	183
Figure 3:	Forest Structure Distribution of Major Species Groups in the Planning Area .....	202
Figure 4:	Fire Statistics from 1982 through 2001 .....	239
Figure 5:	Livestock Annual Cash Receipts in Beaverhead and Madison County .....	256
Figure 6:	Cattle Prices Received in Montana .....	256
Figure 7:	Area Forestry-related Labor Earnings .....	258
Figure 8:	Area Mining Industry Sub-sectors .....	260
Figure 9:	Area Lodging Receipts .....	263

## **List of Appendices - See Volume II**

APPENDIX A:	Laws
APPENDIX B:	Public Involvement Opportunities
APPENDIX C:	Cultural Resources
APPENDIX D:	Fish and Wildlife (including Special Status Species)
APPENDIX E:	Vegetation
APPENDIX F:	Lands and Realty
APPENDIX G:	Standards for Rangeland Health
APPENDIX H:	Minerals
APPENDIX I:	Travel Management
APPENDIX J:	Fire
APPENDIX K:	ACECs

- APPENDIX L: Wild and Scenic Rivers
- APPENDIX M: Wilderness Study Areas
- APPENDIX N: Hazardous Materials
- APPENDIX O: Tribal Treaty Rights
- APPENDIX P: Project Development Procedures
- APPENDIX Q: Best Management Practices
- APPENDIX R: Biological Opinion from Fish and Wildlife Service
- APPENDIX S: Implementation, Monitoring, and Adaptive Management

## **List of Maps - See Volume III**

- Map 1: Land Status in the Planning Area
- Map 14: Riparian Condition and Grazing Allotments
- Map 19: Existing Withdrawals and Communication Sites
- Map 24: Land Adjustment Categories (Alternatives B, C, & D)
- Map 28: Oil and Gas Leasing Restrictions (Alternative B)
- Map 33: Lands Proposed for Withdrawal from Locatable Mineral Entry (Alternative B)
- Map 37: Lands Available for Mineral Materials (Alternative B)
- Map 41: Proposed Special Recreation Management Areas (Alternative B)
- Map 46: Snowmobile Restrictions
- Map 47: Motorized Route Designations – East (Alternative B)
- Map 48: Motorized Route Designations – West (Alternative B)
- Map 49: Motorized Route Designations – East (Alternative C)
- Map 57: Potential ACECs
- Map 64: Centennial Wetlands Potential ACEC
- Map 68: Muddy Creek/Big Sheep Creek Potential ACEC
- Map 69: Virginia City Potential ACEC
- Map 70: Westslope Cutthroat Trout Habitat Potential ACEC
- Map 71: Proposed ACEC Designations (Alternative B)
- Map 73: Proposed ACEC Designations (Alternative D)
- Map 76: Westslope Cutthroat Trout Streams
- Map 78: Big Game Winter Habitat
- Map 80: Sage Grouse Breeding and Winter Habitat
- Map 82: BLM Watershed Assessment Priorities
- Map 84: Locatable Mineral Potential
- Map 85: Areas Closed to Motorized Travel

